

**Serbian Ceramic Society Conference
ADVANCED CERAMICS AND APPLICATION**

Organized by
**Serbian Ceramic Society
&
Institute of Technical Sciences of SASA**

PROGRAM AND THE BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

**Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Knez Mihailova 35
May 10-11th, 2012, Belgrade, Serbia**

Book title: Serbian Ceramic Society Conference - ADVANCED CERAMICS AND APPLICATION: Program and the Book of Abstracts

Publisher:

Serbian Ceramic Society

Editors:

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Technical Editor:

Aleksandra Stojičić

Printing:

Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts,

Knez Mihailova 35, Belgrade, Serbia

Format

Pop Lukina 15, Belgrade, Serbia

Edition:

70 copies

CIP - Каталогизација у публикацији
Народна библиотека Србије, Београд

666.3/.7(048)

66.017/.018(048)

SERBIAN Ceramic Society. Conference (1 ; 2012 ; Beograd)

Advanced Ceramics and Application : program and the book of abstracts / #[1st]
#Serbian Ceramic Society Conference, May 10-11th, 2012, Belgrade, Serbia ; organized
by Serbian Ceramic Society & Institute of Technical Science of SASA ; [editors Vojislav
Mitić, Nina Obradović, Lidija Mančić]. - Belgrade : Serbian Ceramic Society, 2012
(Belgrade : Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts). - XII, 37 str. ; 29 cm

Tiraž 70.

ISBN 978-86-915627-0-0

1. Srpsko keramičko društvo (Beograd)

a) Керамика - Апстракти b) Наука о материјалима - Апстракти c) Наноматеријали
- Апстракти

COBISS.SR-ID 190546188

S3.2 – invited

**Mechanochemical Synthesis of Nanocrystalline Multiferroics
Based on Bismuth Manganite**

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Multiferroic materials simultaneously possess two or more ferroic orders, and enable a coupling interaction between them. Multiferroic bismuth manganite is known as a material that exhibits both ferromagnetic and ferroelectric properties making it interesting for various technological applications. Unfortunately, preparation of BiMnO_3 is not possible by conventional solid state reaction and BiMnO_3 has been synthesized from the mixture of oxides only at high pressures (> 40 kbar). The aim of this work was to synthesize BiMnO_3 (BMO) without additional heating or application of high pressures. Nanocrystalline single-phased BiMnO_3 was prepared for the first time by mechanochemical synthesis directly from the highly activated constituent oxides, Bi_2O_3 and Mn_2O_3 , in a planetary ball mill. The obtained materials were characterized by X-ray diffraction, SEM with EDS analysis, HRTEM and magnetization measurements. All the samples were found to be tetragonal perovskite with $P4mm$ crystallographic group. The broad maxima reflections of BMO samples can be ascribed to an amorphous/disordered phase. HRTEM micrographs give clear evidence of core-shell structure with amorphous shell around the nanocrystalline BMO particles. The magnetic hysteresis behavior is similar to that of a soft ferromagnet. The magnetic properties of the obtained BMO powders were found to change as a function of milling time in a manner consistent with the variation in the nanocomposite microstructure.